

REMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY AND STATUS OF CLAIMS

The specification is objected to for indicated informalities.

Claims 1-6 are pending.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Karger (US Patent No. 6,430,618).

Claims 2 and 5 are cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice.

Thus, claims 1, 3-4 and 6 remain pending for reconsideration, which is respectfully requested.

No new matter has been introduced in this Amendment. The foregoing rejections is hereby traversed.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The Examiner objects to the specification for informalities. The specification, taking into consideration the Examiner's comments, is amended. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

35 USC 112, FOURTH PARAGRAPH, REJECTION

Claims 2 and 5 are rejected as failing to specify a further limitation of the subject matter claimed. Claims 2 and 5 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

35 USC 102(e) REJECTION

PRIOR ART

KRAGER

The present invention's only commonality with Krager is to reduce network traffic overload. However, Krager and the present claimed invention achieve such network traffic reduction differently. Krager relates to a method and apparatus for distributing a request to one of a plurality of resources. To be concrete, a request is mapped to a location in a mathematical mapping space (column 6, lines 22-34; and column 9, lines 18-20). Krager in column 2, lines 8-22, discloses that frequently requested documents are copied from the original server to a cache

server, and client requests are forwarded through the cache server. More specifically, the Krager system comprises the original sites, the cache servers, and the clients as shown in Figs. 1A and 1B and Krager provides a consistent hashing so that for most of the set of information requests, the cache server allocation is consistent even as resources (servers) are added and removed (column 6, lines 22-34). Krager relates to distributing information requests to servers (column 1, lines 15-18).

However, in contrast to Krager, the present invention as recited in claim 1, reduces a load imposed on a server by not processing duplicate/identical processing requests (i.e., "receives a request for processing from a client; ... determines whether or not another request which is identical to the request received from the client, has already been processed," claim 1; and see page 3, lines 3-12 of the present Application). The claimed invention differs from Krager's cache servers, because Krager relates to information requests and does not relate to the present invention's client requests for processing. Therefore, the Krager's portions cited by the Examiner (i.e., column 2, lines 15-24), do not relate to the claimed invention, because Krager's cache server determines whether a document exists in the server and does not determine whether a request for processing has already been processed, such that Krager would process identical requests by a client for a document in the cache. In particular, Krager does not disclose or suggest the recitation, "a result storing unit which stores at least one processing result of at least one request," because Krager's cache server stores documents and does not store a client's request for processing, such as a user registration process request (see, page 19, line 4 to page 23, line 24 of the present Application). To avoid processing identical processing requests, in the present invention when the server 1 receives identical requests, for example, from the same client, the server 1 prevents the requests for processing (which, for example, may be mistakenly duplicated) from being processed, and for the second (duplicate) processing request, the server 1 transmits the already stored processing result for the first processing request (i.e., "transmits to said client one of said at least one processing result corresponding to the request received from the client when said determination unit determines that another request which is identical to the request received from the client, has already been processed," claim 1). Support for the claims can be found, for example, in page 9, line 18 to page 10, line 8; and page 21, line 3 to page 23, line 24 of the present Application.

As shown in Fig. 1, the server of claim 1, comprises a receiving unit, a determination unit storage unit, an execution unit, and a transmission unit. Clearly, Figs. 1A and 1B of Karger fail to describe these processing units of the present invention. Karger discloses a web system comprising the original sites, the cache servers, and the clients, while independent claims 1 and 4 of the present invention defines the internal constitution of a server, and therefore the claimed invention greatly differs from Krager in terms of substance. The present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 4, using the recitation of claim 1 as an example, provides:

a result storing unit which stores at least one processing result of at least one request;

a receiving unit which receiving a request for processing from a client;

a determination unit which determines whether or not another request which is identical to the request received from the client, has already been processed;

an execution unit which executes processing of the request received from the client, and stores a result of the processing in said result storing unit when said determination unit determines that no other request which is identical to the request received from the client has been processed; and

a transmission unit which ... transmits to said client one of said at least one processing result corresponding to the request received from the client when said determination unit determines that another request which is identical to the request received from the client, has already been processed (emphasis added).

DEPENDENT CLAIMS 3 AND 6

Further, in contrast to Krager, dependent claims 3 and 6, using claim 3 as an example, recite, "a prohibiting unit which prohibits the operation of said request reading unit after one of said at least one request stored in said request storing unit is read out until a processing result corresponding to said one of said at least one request is transmitted to a client." The Examiner relies on Krager, column 17, lines 7-15 for disclosing the dependent claim 3 recitation. However, Krager's column 17, lines 7-15, differs from the present invention's recitation, "prohibits the operation of said request reading unit ... until a processing result corresponding to said one of said at least one request is transmitted to a client," because Krager's column 17, lines 7-15 relate to determining whether there is cache data or whether the cache server is during caching the data, and then transmitting the cache data to the server. Krager's column 17, lines 7-15, do not relate to prohibiting reading a processing request until a previous processing-request has been transmitted.

Therefore, clearly dependent claims 3 and 4 are not anticipated by Krager and are patentably distinguishing over Krager.

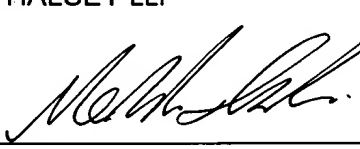
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and the remarks, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 6, and allowance of claims 1, 3-4 and 6 is respectfully requested.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 9/29/2003

By: 
Mehdi Sheikerz
Registration No. 41,307

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501